MEETING NOTES

Social and Economic Impact Study Committee Meeting 3-21-07

Attendees:

Committee Members: Linda Dorn, Gerald Horner, John Jordan, Bobbi Larson, Tina Lunt, Jim Martin, Ryan McCarthy

Also present: Richard Howitt, Pamela Creedon, Dr. Karl Longley, Jeff Barnickol, Daniel Cozad

1. Welcome and introductions

Jim Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendees introduced themselves. Roberta Larson agreed to serve as note taker for the committee.

2. Background

Jim Martin provided e brief Status report on the salinity management effort reviewed the mission of the Central Valley Salinity Policy Group (CVSPG), which is an advisory stakeholder group. He reviewed the funding for the effort provided by the State Water Resources Control Board in May 2006: \$370,000 for the economic and social impacts study (U.C. Davis) \$210,000 for data compilation and database (CSU Fresno) \$290,000 for education and outreach (Water Education Foundation) \$130,000 for strategic planning and stakeholder engagement (Integrated Planning and Management)

The Committee then reviewed the mission and tasks of the Social and Economic Impact Study Committee.

3. Status Report on the UCD contract work

Richard Howitt explained that the purpose of the study is to project economic impacts to 2030 if salinity controls and reduction are limited to existing regulations and programs. Among the major issues is to determine the impact of increasing salinity on water demand and usage in various sectors—urban, environmental and agricultural. He reviewed the approaches to addressing these.

Dr. Howitt explained that the Committee members can best assist by commenting on the priorities, driving variables, and alternative scenarios.

Jerry Horner provided a summary of the Regional Income and Employment Impact model. The model can be used to estimate the cost of salinity buildup or, stated another way, the benefit of curtailing the effects of excess salinity.

4. Committee Membership

The group discussed additional members from local government and also the importance of participation from CAFOs and food processors.

5. Determine and assign administrative duties

Linda Dorn agreed to serve as Committee Chair and Bobbi Larson will serve as recording secretary.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cal EPA building 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA.

Richard Howitt and Jerry Horner agreed to prepare a list of the assumptions that will serve as the basis for the models used in the study, and to provide it to committee members at least one week before the next meeting.